

Application No. 10/591,413
Paper Dated: June 24, 2008
Attorney Docket No. 4587-062099

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/591,413 Confirmation No. 3405
Applicants : Werner BAUMANN et al.
Filed : June 7, 2007
Title : FIELD EFFECT TRANSISTOR FOR MEASURING
BIOCOMPONENTS
Group Art Unit : 2826
Examiner : Victor A. Mandala
Customer No. : 28289

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this Information Disclosure Statement, which includes a completed Form PTO/SB/08a and one copy of each non-U.S. reference listed thereon.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on June 24, 2008.

06/24/2008

Date

Signature

Pauline J. Moyles

Typed Name of Person Signing Certificate

This application is the United States national phase of PCT Application No. PCT/EP2005/002128, filed March 1, 2005. Some of the references cited on Form PTO/SB/08a were first cited in an International Search Report (ISR), dated July 20, 2005 and/or in an International Preliminary Report on Patentability (IPRP), dated May 30, 2005 and/or in a Written Opinion (WO), dated July 20, 2005 in the underlying PCT Application and are relevant for the reasons indicated therein. Copies of the ISR, the IPRP, and the WO are enclosed herewith. Please note the PCT Application PCT/EP2005/002128 satisfies the international criteria for patentability, including novelty; inventive step; and industrial applicability.

DE 19623517 is cited on page 1 of the specification and is relevant for the reasons indicated therein.

Additionally DE 19840157; US 6,602,399; DE 19827957 are listed on Form PTO/SB/08a as they were first cited in an Office Action by the German Patent Office during the prosecution of the corresponding German Patent Application No. DE 102004010635. A copy of the German Office Action as well as English-language abstracts corresponding to DE 19840157 and DE 19827957 are enclosed herewith. DE 19840157 and DE 19827957 are relevant for the reasons indicated in their corresponding English-language abstracts.

“Interface zwischen 2000-Transistoren-Chip und neuronaler Zellkultur” Diss, TU Munich, year 2000, page 27 (“the Diss reference”) shows a field effect transistor, which has a gate electrode consisting of poly-silicon which has the form of a bar which is extended laterally over the real transistor field. The bar of the gate is covered by an electrical insulation layer. Picture 3.2 shows that the bar of the gate is connected with tungsten pins which leads to the surface of the electrical insulation layer. There are, all in all, nine tungsten pins from which only four are shown in picture 3.2. On the surface of the electrical insulation layer are immobilized neurocytes which are in a nutrient solution. The electrical potential of the neurocytes is transmitted over the tungsten pins to the gate of the field transistor and can be measured in this way.

In practice, it happens that the neurocytes in the Diss reference are not exactly positioned over the tungsten pins. Therefore, they cover them only partially. The tungsten pins which are not covered by the neurocytes are in contact with the nutrient solution and are loaded with their internal electrical resistance. Thus, the measurement signal is attenuated down.

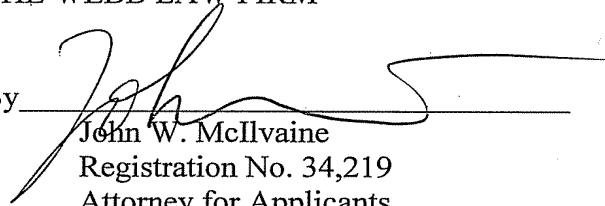
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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), no fee is due for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, which is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. However, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. Please refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0650.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. McIlvaine", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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